IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of setting a timer associated with a protocol supporting a data link in a digital mobile communication system in a connection section comprising a transmitting party and a receiving party, in which method an initial value ~~(S_0)~~ has been defined for the timer,

~~characterized by~~

the method comprising:

at least one of the parties monitoring if a ~~the~~ need to change the timer value has arisen; and

setting the timer value ~~(S)~~ to a value deviating from the initial value ~~(S_0)~~, should such a need be detected~~.~~;

wherein said need to change the timer value is determined repeatedly during a connection, in response to a handover.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized by said setting of the timer value ~~(S)~~ comprising ~~the~~ a measurement of ~~the~~ a propagation delay ~~(D)~~ associated with the connection section.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that should ~~the~~ a need to decrease the timer value ~~(S)~~ be detected, the timer value is decreased by a first step ~~(dS_1)~~ which is substantially lower than the difference between the measured propagation delay ~~(D)~~ and the current timer value ~~(S)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that should ~~the~~ a need to increase the timer value ~~(S)~~ be detected, the timer value is increased by a second step ~~(dS_2)~~ which is substantially higher than the difference between the measured propagation delay ~~(D)~~ and the current timer value ~~(S)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, characterized by said measurement of the propagation delay ~~(D)~~ comprising the steps of:

either party to the connection transmitting to the other party a frame ~~(F)~~ which is selected/formed such that the party receiving the frame sends an acknowledgement ~~(Ack)~~ to the transmitting party; and

the party which transmitted the frame measuring the time from the moment of transmission of the frame ~~(F)~~ to the arrival of the acknowledgement ~~(Ack)~~ and deducing the propagation delay ~~(D)~~ therefrom.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized by~~ A method of setting a timer associated with a protocol supporting a data link in a digital mobile communication system in a connection section comprising a transmitting party and a receiving party, in which method an initial value has been defined for the timer,

the method comprising at least one of the parties monitoring if a need to change the timer value has arisen; and

setting the timer value to a value deviating from the initial value, should such a need be detected,

wherein said need to change the timer value ~~being~~ is detected from a separate parameter which is read from a database or received from the other party to the connection section at the start of the connection and/or when connection quality changes, such as in handover.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized by~~ wherein said parameter indicating if the connection section is set up via a satellite or not.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized by~~ A method of setting a timer associated with a protocol supporting a data link in a digital mobile communication system in a connection section comprising a transmitting party and a receiving party, in which method an initial value has been defined for the timer,

the method comprising:

at least one of the parties monitoring if a need to change the timer value has arisen; and

setting the timer value to a value deviating from the initial value, should such a need be detected,

wherein said need to change the timer value being detected on the basis of the location of the mobile station.

11. (Currently Amended) An equipment ~~(MSC/IWF, MS)~~ for setting a timer

associated with a protocol supporting a data link in a digital mobile communication system in a connection section whose first party is said equipment ~~(MSC/IWF, MS)~~ and which also comprises a second party, ~~(MSC/IWF, MS)~~ the equipment being adapted to set a predetermined initial value ~~(S_0)~~ to the timer,

~~characterized by~~

the equipment comprising:

at least one party being adapted to monitor if the need to change the current timer value ~~(S)~~ has arisen; and

the equipment being adapted to set the current timer value to a value deviating from the initial value ~~(S_0)~~, should such a need be detected, repeatedly during a connection, in response to a handover.

12. (Currently Amended) An equipment as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized by being~~ wherein the equipment is a mobile switching centre ~~(MSC(IWF)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An equipment as claimed in claim 12, characterized by~~ An equipment for setting a timer associated with a protocol supporting a data link in a digital mobile communication system in a connection section whose first party is said equipment and which also comprises a second party

the equipment being adapted to set a predetermined initial value to the timer,

the equipment comprising:

at least one party being adapted to monitor if a need to change the current timer value has arisen; and

the equipment being adapted to set the current timer value to a value deviating from the initial value, should such a need be detected

the equipment further comprising or having associated with it a data base ~~(DB)~~ comprising a plurality of different cell, location area and/or base station controller-specific timer values ~~(S)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) An equipment as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized by being~~ wherein the equipment is a mobile station ~~(MS)~~.